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| 09/934,924 | 08/22/2001 | Brian R. Beams | 05222.00184 | 9686 |

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| 29638 | 7590 | 06/03/2004 | | |

BANNER & WITCOFF AND ATTORNEYS FOR ACCENTURE
10 S. WACKER DRIVE, 30TH FLOOR
CHICAGO, IL 60606

| EXAMINER |
|---|
| SALAD, ABDULLAHI ELMI |

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|---|---|
| 2157 | |

DATE MAILED: 06/03/2004

11

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

| | Application No | Applicant(s) |
|---|---|---|
| **Office Action Summary** | 09/934,924 | BEAMS ET AL. |
| | **Examiner** | **Art Unit** | |
| | Salad E Abdullahi | 2157 | |

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _05 March 2004_.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.      2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-76_ is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _39-57_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-38 and 58-76_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a)☐ All  b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

   1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

   3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6)☐ Other: _____.

## Response to Amendment

1.      The amendment filed on 3/5/2004 has been received and made of record.

2.      Claims 1-76 are pending. The rejection cited stated below.

3.      Applicant's argument with respect to claims 1-38 and 58-76 has been considered but are not persuasive for the following reasons.

Applicant alleges Daniels does not teach the amended claim limitation of: "selecting second destination to interact with the one or more users and modifying the interaction parameters for the one or more users in accordance with second destination.

Examiner respectfully disagrees, because Daniels teach selecting second destination depending on how a student does on unit test (col. 9, lines 63 to col. 10, line 34).

Also, Daniels teach modifying the  interaction parameters (col. 9, lines 63 to col. 10, line 6).

Applicant further alleges Daniels does not teach "connecting a server and one or more users and first virtual instructor (first teacher) and dynamically adding second virtual instructor".

Examiner respectfully disagrees because Daniels describes adding a second teacher group  as well as curriculum specialist sub group(see col. 5, lines 62-64 and col. 6, lines 37-44).

In response to applicant's argument Daniels does not teach selecting presentation type for instructing one or more users (see col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50).

## Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4.      The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5.      Claims 1-38 and 58-76 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated

Daniels et al., U. S. Patent No. 5,310,349[hereinafter Daniels].

As per claims 1, Daniels disclose a method for establishing virtual consultant

(virtual teacher), comprising the steps:

(a)     connecting a server and one or more users (see col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4,

        lines 19-50 and col. 6, lines 37-64);

(b)     selecting a firs destination (class room 28 ) within the server to interact with one

        or more users (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50);

( c )   coupling the one or more users through the server based on the first destination

        (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50); and

(d)     establishing interaction parameters (providing support functions ) for the one or

        users based on the selected destination (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and

        col. 4, lines 19-50).

(e)     selecting a second destination to interact with the one or more users (see fig. 18

        and col. 10, lines 19-34);

(f)     modifying the interaction parameters for the one or more users in accordance

        with second destination (col. 9, lines 63 to col. 10, line 6).

In considering claim 2, Daniels disclose a method for establishing a virtual consultant as recited in claim 1, wherein the first and second destinations include locations such as reception area (school map 20), where users can interact using collaborative functions of the system (see fig. 4, element 26, 30 and 40).

In considering claim 3, Daniels disclose a method for establishing a virtual consultant as recited in claim 1, wherein the first and second destinations include locations such as reception area, library, an office or a lounge where users can interact using collaborative functions of the system (see fig. 4, element 26, 30 and 40).

In considering claim 4, Daniels disclose a method for establishing a virtual consultant as recited in claim 1, wherein the first and second destinations include locations such as reception area, library, an office or a lounge where users can interact using collaborative functions of the system (see fig. 4, element 26, 30 and 40).

In considering claim 5, Daniels disclose a method for establishing a virtual consultant as recited in claim 1, wherein the first and second destinations include locations such as reception area, library, an office or a lounge where users can interact using collaborative functions of the system (see fig. 4, element 26, 30 and 40).

In considering claim 6, Daniels disclose a method for establishing a virtual consultant as recited in claim 1, wherein interaction parameters include support for collaboration,

support for bulletin board, support for recording functions and support for electronic

distribution (see fig. 4, element 44).

In considering claim 7, Daniels disclose a method for establishing a virtual consultant as

recited in claim 1, wherein interaction parameters include support for collaboration,

support for bulletin board, support for recording functions and support for electronic

distribution (see fig. 4, element 44).

In considering claim 8, Daniels disclose a method for establishing a virtual consultant as

recited in claim 1, wherein interaction parameters include support for collaboration,

support for bulletin board, support for recording functions and support for electronic

distribution (see fig. 4, element 44).

In considering claim 9, Daniels disclose a method for establishing a virtual consultant as

recited in claim 1, wherein interaction parameters include support for collaboration,

support for bulletin board, support for recording functions and support for electronic

distribution (see fig. 4, element 44).

As per claim 10, Daniels disclose an apparatus discloses for establishing virtual

consultant (virtual teacher), comprising the steps:

(a)     logic that connects a server and one or more users (see col. 3, lines 15-40 and

        col. 4, lines 19-50 and col. 6, lines 37-64);

(b)     logic that selects a firs destination (class room 28 ) within the server to interact

with one or more users (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50);

( c )    logic that couples the one or more users through the server based on the first

destination (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50); and

(d)     logic that establishes interaction parameters (providing support functions ) for the

one or users based on the selected destination (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40

and col. 4, lines 19-50).

(e)     logic that selects a second destination to interact with the one or more users (see

fig. 18 and col. 10, lines 19-34);

(f)     logic that modifies the interaction parameters for the one or more users in

accordance with second destination (col. 9, lines 63 to col. 10, line 6).


As per claim 11, Daniels disclose a computer program system for establishing virtual

consultant (virtual teacher), comprising the steps:

(a)     code segment that connects a server and one or more users (see col. 3, lines 15-

40 and col. 4, lines 19-50 and col. 6, lines 37-64);

(b)     code segment that selects a firs destination (class room 28 ) within the server to

interact with one or more users (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines

19-50);

( c )    code segment that couples the one or more users through the server based on

the first destination (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50);

and

(d)     code segment that establishes interaction parameters (providing support

        functions ) for the one or users based on the selected destination (see fig. 4, and

        col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50).

(e)     code segment that selects a second destination to interact with the one or more

        users (see fig. 18 and col. 10, lines 19-34);

(f)     code segment that modifies the interaction parameters for the one or more users

        in accordance with second destination (col. 9, lines 63 to col. 10, line 6).


In considering claim 12, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-

readable medium that establishes a virtual school class room as recited in claim 11,

wherein the first and second destinations include locations such as reception area,

library, an office or a lounge where users can interact using collaborative functions of

the system (see fig. 4, element 26, 30 and 40).


In considering claim 13, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-

readable medium that establishes a virtual school class room as recited in claim 11,

wherein the first and second destinations include locations such as reception area,

library, an office or a lounge where users can interact using collaborative functions of

the system (see fig. 4, element 26, 30 and 40).


In considering claim 14, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-

readable medium that establishes a virtual school class room as recited in claim 11,

wherein the first and second destinations include locations such as reception area,

library, an office or a lounge where users can interact using collaborative functions of

the system (see fig. 4, element 26, 30 and 40).

In considering claim 15, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-

readable medium that establishes a virtual school class room as recited in claim 11,

wherein the first and second destinations include locations such as reception area,

library, an office or a lounge where users can interact using collaborative functions of

the system (see fig. 4, element 26, 30 and 40).

In considering claim 16, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-

readable medium that establishes a virtual school class room as recited in claim 11,

wherein interaction parameters include support for collaboration (see fig. 4, element 44).

In considering claim 17, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-

readable medium that establishes a virtual school class room as recited in claim 11,

wherein, wherein interaction parameters include support for bulletin board function (see

fig. 4, element 44).

In considering claim 18, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-

readable medium that establishes a virtual school class room as recited in claim 11,

wherein interaction parameters include support for recording function  (see fig. 4,

element 52).

In considering claim 19, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-

readable medium that establishes a virtual school class room as recited in claim 11,

wherein interaction parameters include support for recording functions and support for

electronic distribution of consulting material (see fig. 4, element 44).

As per claim 20, Daniels disclose a method for providing one or more virtual instructors

(virtual teacher), comprising the steps:

- connecting a server and one or more users and first virtual instructor (first

   teacher) (see col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50 and col. 6, lines 37-64);

- selecting a destination (location, class room) within the server to interact with one

   or more users (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50);

- coupling the one or more users through the server based on the selected

   destination see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50); and

- establishing interaction parameters (providing support functions ) for the one or

   users based on the selected destination (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and

   col. 4, lines 19-50).

- dynamically adding second virtual instructor (second teacher) (see col. 6, lines

   37-64).

In considering claim 21, Daniels disclose the method for providing one or more virtual instructors as recited in claim 20, wherein the second virtual instructor monitors progress and provides feedback (see col. 3, lines 29-31 and col. 6, lines 36-63 and col. 14, lines 37-64).

In considering claim 22, Daniels disclose the method for providing one or more virtual instructors as recited in claim 20, wherein the second virtual instructor (second teacher) is selected by one more users (see col. 6, lines 36-63 and col. 14, lines 37-64).

In considering claim 23, Daniels disclose the method for providing one or more virtual instructors as recited in claim 20, wherein the second virtual instructor becomes the principal (see col. 6, lines 36-63 and col. 14, lines 37-64).

In considering claim 24, Daniels disclose the method for providing one or more virtual instructors as recited in claim 20, wherein the second virtual instructor works with the first instructor to instructor the one or more users (see col. 6, lines 36-63).

In considering claim 25, Daniels disclose the method for providing one or more virtual instructors as recited in claim 20, wherein the second virtual instructor collaborates privately with the first instructor (see col. 6, lines 36-63).

In considering claim 26, Daniels disclose the method for providing one or more virtual instructors as recited in claim 20, wherein the second virtual instructor leads a breakout session with one or more users (see col. 13, lines 8-13).

In considering claim 27, Daniels disclose the method for providing one or more virtual instructors as recited in claim 20, the second virtual instructor is selected by the first virtual instructor (see col. 6, lines 36-63 and col. 14, lines 37-64).

In considering claim 28, Daniels disclose the method for providing one or more virtual instructors as recited in claim 20, the second virtual instructor the interaction parameters include support of for electronic distribution of materials from the second virtual instructor (see col. 6, lines 36-63 and col. 14, lines 37-64).

As per claim 29, Daniels disclose an apparatus for providing one or more virtual instructors (virtual teacher), comprising the steps:

- logic that connects a server and one or more users and first virtual instructor (first teacher) (see col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50 and col. 6, lines 37-64);

- logic that selects a destination (location, class room) within the server to interact with one or more users (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50);

- logic that couples the one or more users through the server based on the selected destination see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50); and

- logic that establishes interaction parameters (providing support functions ) for the one or users based on the selected destination (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50).

- logic that dynamically adds a second virtual instructor (second teacher) (see col. 6, lines 37-64).

As per claim 30, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium that provides one or more virtual instructors comprising the steps:

- a code that connects a server and one or more users and first virtual instructor (first teacher) (see col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 6, lines 37-64);

- a code that selects a destination (location, class room) within the server to interact with one or more users (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 );

- a code that couples the one or more users through the server based on the selected destination (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50); and

- a code that establishes interaction parameters (providing support functions ) for the one or users based on the selected destination (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50).

- a code that establishes adding second virtual instructor (second teacher) (see col. 6, lines 37-64).

In considering claim 31, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium that provides one or more virtual instructors as recited in claim 20, wherein the second virtual instructor monitors progress and provides feedback (see col. 3, lines 29-31 and col. 6, lines 36-63 and col. 14, lines 37-64).

In considering claim 32 Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium that provides one or more virtual instructors as recited in claim 20, wherein the second virtual instructor (second teacher) is selected by one more users (see col. 6, lines 36-63 and col. 14, lines 37-64).

In considering claim 33, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium that provides one or more virtual instructors as recited in claim 20, wherein the second virtual instructor becomes the principal (see col. 6, lines 36-63 and col. 14, lines 37-64).

In considering claim 34, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium that provides one or more virtual instructors as recited in claim 20, wherein the second virtual instructor works with the first instructor to instructor the one or more users (see col. 6, lines 36-63).

In considering claim 35, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium that provides one or more virtual instructors as recited in claim 20,

wherein the second virtual instructor collaborates privately with the first instructor (see

col. 6, lines 36-63).

In considering claim 36, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-

readable medium that provides one or more virtual instructors as recited in claim 20,

wherein the second virtual instructor leads a breakout session with one or more users

(see col. 13, lines 8-13).

In considering claim 37, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-

readable medium that provides one or more virtual instructors as recited in claim 20,

wherein the second virtual instructor is selected by the first virtual instructor (see col. 6,

lines 36-63 and col. 14, lines 37-64).

In considering claim 38, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-

readable medium that provides one or more virtual instructors as recited in claim 20,

wherein the second virtual instructor the interaction parameters  include support of for

electronic distribution of materials from the second virtual instructor (see col. 6, lines 36-

63 and col. 14, lines 37-64).

As per claims 58, Daniels et al disclose a method for establishing virtual class room

(class room 28), comprising the steps:

- connecting virtual classroom (fig. 4, element 28) and one or more users  (see col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50 and col. 6, lines 37-64);

- selecting a presentation type within the classroom to interact with one or more users (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50);

- coupling the one or more users through the server based on the selected destination see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50); and

- establishing interaction parameters (providing support functions ) for the one or users based on the selected destination (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50).

In considering claim 59, Daniels disclose the method for establishing a virtual class room as recited in claim 58, wherein the presentation type includes at least one of media center (see fig. 4, element 22).

In considering claim 60, Daniels disclose the method for establishing a virtual class room as recited in claim 58, wherein the interaction parameters are a protocol that allow a plurality of people to interact with the system (see col. 3, 1-40).

In considering claim 61, Daniels disclose the method for establishing a virtual class room as recited in claim 58, wherein the interaction parameters are a protocol that allow a plurality of people to interact with the system (see col. 3, 1-40).

In considering claim 62, Daniels disclose the method for establishing a virtual class room as recited in claim 58, wherein material are provided for use by one or more students and one or more teachers in the virtual class room (see fig. 4 and col. 3, 1-40).

In considering claim 63, Daniels disclose the method for establishing a virtual class room as recited in claim 58, wherein homework material are provided for use by one or more students in the virtual class room (see col. 12, 1-23).

In considering claim 64, Daniels disclose the method for establishing a virtual class room as recited in claim 58, wherein tests are provided for use by one or more students (see col. 3, line 36).

In considering claim 65, Daniels disclose the method for establishing a virtual class room as recited in claim 58, wherein a breakout sessions are provided for the one more students and one or more teachers (see col. 13, lines 8-13).

In considering claim 66, Daniels disclose the method for establishing a virtual class room as recited in claim 58, wherein grades are distributed electronically (distributing grades electronically is inherent to Daniels system, see also fig. 18 and col. 10, 19-41).

As per claim 67, Daniels disclose an apparatus for establishing virtual classroom (classroom 28), comprising the steps:

- logic that connects virtual classroom (fig. 4, element 28) and one or more users (see col. 3, lines 15-40 and col.4, lines 19-50 and col. 6, lines 37-64);

- logic that selects a presentation type within the classroom to interact with one or more users (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50);

- logic that couples the one or more users through the server based on the selected destination see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50); and

- logic that establishes interaction parameters (providing support functions ) for the one or users based on the selected destination (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50).

As per claim 68, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium for establishing a virtual classroom comprising the steps:

- connecting virtual classroom (fig. 4, element 28) and one or more users  (see col. 3, lines 15-40 and col.  4, lines 19-50 and col. 6, lines 37-64);

- selecting a presentation type within the classroom to interact with one or more users (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50);

- coupling the one or more users through the server based on the selected destination see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50); and

- establishing interaction parameters (providing support functions ) for the one or users based on the selected destination (see fig. 4, and col. 3, lines 15-40 and col. 4, lines 19-50).

As per claim 69, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-

readable medium for establishing a virtual classroom as recited in claim 68, wherein the

presentation type includes at least one of media center (see fig. 4, element 22).

As per claim 70, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-

readable medium for establishing a virtual classroom as recited in claim 68,wherein the

interaction parameters are a protocol that allow a one person to interact with the system

(see col. 3, 1-40).

As per claim 71, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-

readable medium for establishing a virtual classroom as recited in claim 68, wherein the

interaction parameters are a protocol that allow a plurality of people to interact with the

system (see col. 3, 1-40).

As per claim 72, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-

readable medium for establishing a virtual classroom as recited in claim 68, wherein

material are provided for use by one or more students and one or more teachers in the

virtual class room (see fig. 4 and col. 3, 1-40).

As per claim 73, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-

readable medium for establishing a virtual classroom as recited in claim 68, wherein

homework material are provided for use by one or more students in the virtual class

room (see col. 12, 1-23).

As per claim 74, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-

readable medium for establishing a virtual classroom as recited in claim 68, wherein

tests are provided for use by one or more students (see col. 3, line 36).

As per claim 75, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-

readable medium for establishing a virtual classroom as recited in claim 68, wherein a

breakout sessions are provided for the one more students and one or more teachers

(see col. 13, lines 8-13).

As per claim 76, Daniels disclose a computer program embodied on a computer-

readable medium for establishing a virtual classroom as recited in claim 68, wherein the

virtual classroom is recorded (see fig. 4, element 52, the multimedia material for

recording material).

6.    **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

## CONCLUSION

7.      The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to the

applicant's disclosure.

8.      Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Salad E Abdullahi whose telephone number is 703-308-

8441. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 - 5:00. If attempts to reach the

examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can

be reached on 703-305-4792. The fax phone number for the organization where this

application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

9.      Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).
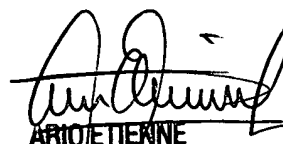
**Any response to this action should mailed to:**

>      Box AF

>           Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

>           Washington, DC 20231

>      **or faxed to: (703) (7872-9306)**.

>      *As*

>      5/29/2004

ARIO ETIENNE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINEF
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100